Southeastern Michigan Jazz Association
Update
October 2022

2022 Detroit Jazz Fest: A Bright Renewal

BY LARS BJORN

It was a delight to see so much live jazz again in downtown Detroit after a pandemic break in 2020 and 2021. There was music on three stages at Hart Plaza and also at Campus Martius from Friday through Labor Day; and all of it was live-streamed, so we expect an audience of millions was watching world-wide thanks to the visions of festival director Chris Collins and the Detroit Jazz Festival Foundation.

The choice of Chucho Valdes as the artist-in-residence for the 43rd festival was a wise one by Collins. Valdes has been a major figure in the world of jazz since the formation in the 1970s of Irakere, which included trumpeter Arturo Sandoval and altoist Paquito D'Rivera. Valdes did not disappoint on opening night when he presented his composition "The Creation" for piano, big band and plenty of percussion. His considerable keyboard skills were enhanced by his colorful arrangements, and I pray that it was all recorded for posterity. Valdes was also in his prime Sunday night in exhilarating duets with tenorist Joe Lovano and vocalist Dianne Reeves.

First on the Amphitheater Stage on Friday was drummer Shannon Powell leading Dr Valade's Brass Band with New Orleans chants and Crescent City notables like Jason Marsalis on the bass drum. The weather created delays on Saturday but when things cleared after dinner time I was once again impressed by Abdullah Ibrahim (right) and his Ekaya band on Campus Martius. Sunday also presented two shining lights in the world of vocal jazz on the same stage: José James and Cecile McLorin Salvant. Both singers have impressive voice ranges and their choice of material put them apart. James impressed with a blues program of Billie Holiday songs while Salvant was more ecumenical with anything from Mozart to musicals to jazz standards.

Labor Day featured Ethan Iverson's all-star trio with bassist Larry Grenadier and drummer Nathaniel Waits (son of Detroit drummer Fred Waits). Ralphe Armstrong presented his unique show on the Waterfront Stage with plenty of funk on his electric bass, Gerard Gibbs backing him on organ and Gayelynn McKinney kicking it on her drums. Armstrong also showed off his salty sense of humor to the delight of the audience picnicking in the grass by the Detroit River. Pianist Emmett Cohen was delighted to be back in Detroit for the festival and his performance on the Pyramid Stage with his trio was stellar.

photograph by Jeff Dunn

Additional DJF photos on page 7

2022 Edgefest

In cooperation with the Kerrytown Concert House and several Detroit venues Edgefest 26 runs from October 19 to 22 and has been dubbed "Breathing Free." The festival will feature a number of big names in Avant Garde/Free Jazz: saxophonists Anthony Braxton and Dave Rempis, pianist Matthew Shipp, and singers Jay Clayton and Fay Victor, violinists Jason Kao Hwang and Mark Feldman. A long lineup of Detroit players from Alex Harding to Rafael Statin and Kenny Green will appear at Trinosophes on Wednesday, October 19, in Detroit and by Thursday, October 20, the festival moves to its home base at Kerrytown Concert House in Ann Arbor. The finale takes place at Bethlehem United Church of Christ on Saturday. As usual there will be a parade through Kerrytown Market on Saturday where everyone is encouraged to bring an instrument.

Please refer to the detailed schedule on page 5 or go to *kerrytownconcerthouse.com/edgefest*.

Ron Brooks Celebration at Kerrytown Concert House

TOP (from left): Vincent Bowens, George Davidson, Rick Roe, Ron Brooks, Rayse Biggs, Cary Kocher, Paul Keller

photograph by Lars Bjorn

ABOVE: Ron Brooks

photograph by Jeff Dunn

BY LARS BJORN

The Kerrytown Concert House put on a celebration honoring Ann Arbor's "Jazz Mayor" Ron Brooks on September 16. Fellow bassist and bandleader Paul Keller organized the event (a Paul Keller House Call) and Brooks was clearly moved by all the attention. It was a very well attended event with music by a long line of area jazz men (above), and speeches by most including the honoree.

It is hard to know where to start when honoring Brooks since he has been involved in jazz on so many levels: as a bassist, bandleader, jazz activist and club-owner since the early 1960s. A convenient starting point is his recording with the Bob James Trio for Mercury from 1962. The trio got started when James was a student at the University of Michigan, and it played at local bars and nearby jazz festivals like one at Notre Dame.

After James left town Brooks was one of the founders of Mixed Bag, which included saxophonist Larry Nozero, pianist Eddie Russ, and drummer Danny Spencer. The group played local restaurants like the Loma Linda, and bars like the Del Rio where Brooks was the unofficial booking agent.

In 1984 he opened the Bird of Paradise, which featured music seven nights a week and closed after moving to Main Street in 2008. The club featured the Ron Brooks Trio, area bands, plus many traveling jazz notables like Dizzy Gillespie, Betty Carter, Emily Remler, David Newman, and Frank Morgan.

In 1987 he was the founding father of SEMJA and continues today as President Emeritus.

Noon Concerts at Schoolcraft College

Schoolcraft College has announced its jazz offerings for the 43rd annual Wednesday Noon Concert Series.

Veteran saxophonist Steve Wood brings his quartet to the stage on October 19. His group features Phil Kelly on piano, Ray Parker on bass and Jon Blanchette on drums.

Young bassist Jonathon Muir-Cotton leads his extended band Expressions on November 2. Muir-Cotton recently electrified his audience with a wide range of musical styles at the Michigan Jazz Festival.

On February 15, University of Michigan Professor Ellen Rowe presents another chapter in her venerable series, "All About the Trio." With Marion Hayden on bass and Pete Siers on drums, Rowe will pay tribute to the late pianist Barry Harris.

On April 5, Ann Arbor trumpeter Ingrid Racine performs with her quartet.

The Wednesday Noon Concert Series is presented in Schoolcraft's VisTaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd. near Seven Mile. The one-hour concerts are free. Check *schoolcraft.edu/music* for a full schedule of all ten classical and jazz concerts.

Carr Center Performances

The Carr Center in Detroit will open a new performance space with a public grand opening at noon on October 14. The Carr Center Performance Studio opens with an inaugural multimedia installation called "Shifting the Narrative: Jazz and Gender Justice" curated by Carr Center Artistic Director and well-known drummer Terri Lyne Carrington. The installation will be up through November 27 at 15 East Kirby St. in Detroit. There will be a panel discussion with Angela Davis, Robin D.G. Kelly, Gina Dent and Carrington at 5:00 p.m.

A New Standards Jazz Crawl will take place on October 14 and 15 covering eight different venues for a total of thirteen different performances celebrating the Center's thirtieth anniversary. Artists performing include singers Jazzmeia Horn and Carmen Lundy, drummer Susie Ibarra and flutist Nicole Mitchell.

Please visit *thecarrcenter.org* for more details.

Wharton Welcomes Krall and Connick

The Wharton Center in East Lansing has at least two concerts of interest this fall. First off is pianist/singer Diana Krall on October 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Cobb Great Hall. Krall is the winner of numerous awards including several Grammies.

The second is New Orleans pianist Harry Connick, Jr. who will appear on November 30 for a Holiday Celebration at Cobb Great Hall at 7:30 p.m. His last visit to Wharton in 2015 was sold out which is due to his wide appeal as a musical artist and actor with Crescent City charm. His most recent album is 2021's *Alone with My Faith,* which earned him his 16th career Grammy in the Roots Gospel category. Connick has appeared on Broadway in a Cole Porter celebration.

jazz events
October

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

ATTENTION all venue owners, musicians, and listeners
Please let us know about upcoming jazz events in the area!

- Write us at SEMJA
  712 East Ann St.
  Ann Arbor,MI 48104-1502
- Phone us at 734-668-7470
- Submit information online at *www.semja.org/submit*

We will include notices if they reach us by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Aretha's Jazz Café at Music Hall

350 Madison
DETROIT 313-887-8501

ONGOING

Sun	6:00	Aretha's Jazz Jam

Baker's Keyboard Lounge

theofficialbakerskeyboardlounge.com
20510 Livernois
DETROIT 313-345-6300

ONGOING

Fri	7:00	Ralphe Armstrong Trio – with Gerard Gibbs, Brandon Williams
Sat	7:00	Ralphe Armstrong Trio – with Gerard Gibbs, Brandon Williams

Bert's Jazz Club

2727 Russell Outside in Eastern Market
DETROIT 313-657-8493

ONGOING

Thu	7:00	Bill Meyer Group – with Ibrahim Jones, Butter Hawkins

Blue LLama Jazz Club

www.bluellamaclub.com
314 South Main St.
ANN ARBOR

OCTOBER

1	7:00	Gayelynn McKinney & The McKinney Zone
2	6:00	Jean Holden
3	7:00	Tumbao Bravo – with Paul VornHagen
6	6:00	Ellen Rowe Trio
7	6:00 8:30	Kurt Elling and the Huntertones Horns
12	7:00	Latin Jazz Wednesday: Lunar Octet
13	6:00 8:30	James Carter Trio
14	5:01	WEMU 5:01 Series: Planet D Nonet
14	7:30	Organissimo
15	6:00 8:30	Michael Dease Quintet
16	6:00	Jordan Rattner Quartet
19	7:00	Gwenyth Hayes
21	7:00	Sean Dobbins
22	6:00 8:30	Jesse Palter
25	7:00	Kenji Lee
27	6:00 8:30	Djangophonique
28	6:00 8:30	Ramona Collins Quintet
29	6:00 8:30	Occidental Gypsy
30	6:00	Adam Mosley

Cadieux Café

4300 Cadieux Rd.
DETROIT 313-882-8560

ONGOING

Mon	8:00	Open Blues Jam — with Bobby East, Pat Smillie & Friends

Cliff Bells

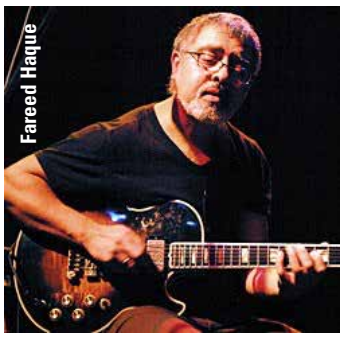
www.cliffbells.com
2030 Park Ave at West Adams
DETROIT 313-961-2543

OCTOBER

1, 2	7:30 9:30	Vincent Chandler Experience
6	7:30 9:30	Michael Palozzolo Quartet
7, 9	7:30 9:30	Straight Ahead
13	7:30 9:30	Zen Zadravec Quartet
15, 16	7:30 9:30	Zen Zadravec Quartet
20, 21	7:30 9:30	Fareed Haque
22	7:30 9:30	Esthesis Quartet
27	7:30 9:30	John Raymond

ONGOING

Wed	7:30 9:30	Noah Jackson and Full Circle



Dirty Dog Jazz Café

www.dirtydogjazz.com
97 Kercheval
GROSSE PTE. FARMS 313-882-5299

OCTOBER

5–8	6:30 9:00	Alexander Zonjic
12–15	6:30 9:00	Sarah D'Angelo
19–22	6:30 9:00	Duane Parham
26, 27	6:30 9:00	Damon Terrell
28, 29	6:30 9:00	Shayna Steele

ONGOING

Tue	6:00	Ron English

The Earle

www.theearle.com
121 West Washington St.
ANN ARBOR 734-994-0211

ONGOING

Tue	7:00	Jake Reichbart
Wed	7:00	Jake Reichbart
Thu	7:00	Jake Reichbart
Fri	6:45	Robert Warren plus various
Sat	6:45	Robert Warren plus various

Imaginate Restaurant

imaginaterestaurant.com
401 South Lafayette Ave.
ROYAL OAK 248-633-8899

ONGOING

Wed	6:30	Eat It Up Trio

Kerrytown Concert House

kerrytownconcerthouse.com
415 North Fourth Ave.
ANN ARBOR 734-769-2999

OCTOBER

19–22	7:30	Edgefest

Lucille's Jazz Lounge

lucillesjazzlounge.com
1447 North Summit St.
TOLEDO, OH

OCTOBER

1	8:00	Djangophonique
7	8:00	Quick Quartet
14	8:00	Matthew Fries
20	8:00	Bobby Falk
28	8:00	TJO Quartet
29	8:00	Sean Dobbins Trio

Djangophonique

Schoolcraft College

schoolcraft.edu/music
VisTaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd.
LIVONIA 734-462-4403

OCTOBER

19	Noon	Steve Woods Quartet

Steve Woods

Shield's

25101 Telegraph Rd.
SOUTHFIELD 248-476-2674

OCTOBER

1	1:00	Keller / Kocher & Co
15	1:00	Paul VornHagen Quartet
22	1:00	Cliff Monear Trio – with Stephanie Monear

Cliff Monear

Weber's Habitat Lounge

www.thehabitatannarbor.com
3050 Jackson Rd.
ANN ARBOR 734-665-3636

ONGOING

Mon	6:00	Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
Tue	6:00	Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
Wed	6:00	Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
Thu	6:00	Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
Sun	5:00	William Marshall Bennett

Wesley's Bar & Grill

1201 Adams St.
TOLEDO

ONGOING

Sat	10:00	[1st & 3rd] Quick Trio – with Zac Kreuz

Zal Gaz Grotto

zalgaz.org
2070 West Stadium Blvd.
ANN ARBOR 734-663-1202

ONGOING

Mon	7:00	Paul Keller Orchestra
Tue	5:30	Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band

Upcoming Jazz Events

NOVEMBER

2	Jonathon Muir-Cotton and Expressions • Schoolcraft College, Livonia
5	Ingrid Racine – with Vincent Chandler, Rick Roe, Josef Deas, Alex White • Lucille's, Toledo
21	Steve Swell & Frode Gjerstad Quintet • Trinosophes, Detroit

edgefest

Edgefest 26 Schedule

All performances at Kerrytown Concert House in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted

Wednesday, October 19

8:00 The Cosmic Music Community @ Trinosophes, Detroit
Alex Harding, Rafael Rafael Statin, Anthony Holland and Skeeter Shelton, reeds; Allan Colding, Djallo Djakate, Acunda Hollis, Clifford Sykes, and Che Green, percussion; Jaribu Shahid, Ed Coburn and Joel Peterson, bass; Ras Kente, guitar; Kenneth Green, piano/gongs; Belinda Reid, dancer

Thursday, October 20

7:00 Kenji Lee's Fortune Teller Trio
Kenji Lee, saxophone; Andy Peck, double bass; Jonathan Barahal Taylor, drums

8:00 William Hooker Trio
William Hooker, drums; Theo Woodward, synth/woodwinds/vocals; Hans Tammen, guitar/synthesizer

9:00 Double Duo
Ken Filiano, bass; Jay Clayton, vocals

10:00 Matthew Shipp Trio
Matthew Shipp, piano; Michael Bisio, bass; Newman Taylor Baker, drums

Friday, October 21

7:00 Oluyemi Thomas' Positive Knowledge
Ijeoma Thomas, voice, poetry; Oluyemi Thomas, bass clarinet, saxophone; Kenn Thomas, piano; Joel Peterson bass; David Hurley, drums, percussion; Jonathan Taylor, drums

8:00 Michael TA Thompson Quintet
Deanna Relyea, voice; Piotr Michalowski, bass clarinet, sopranino & soprano saxophones; Mara Rosenbloom, piano; Ken Filiano, bass; Michael TA Thompson, drums

9:00 Rempis/Feldman/Daisy Trio
Dave Rempis, saxophone; Mark Feldman, violin; Tim Daisy, drums

10:00 Fay Victor's Mutations for Justice
Fay Victor, voice/composer; Melanie Dyer, viola; Luke Stewart, bass; Michael Vatcher, drums

Saturday, October 22

Noon Edgefest Parade
Scarlett Middle School band students (Caroline Fitzgerald, Band Director) plus Edgefest artists and community members participate in this raucous and exciting moment in the Kerrytown downtown/Farmer's Market area.

2:00 Alexander Hawkins, solo piano

3:00 WeFreeStrings
Charles Burnham & Gwen Laster, violins; Melanie Dyer, viola; Alexander Waterman, cello; Ken Filiano, bass; Michael Wimberly, percussion

7:00 Grand Finale Evening @ Bethlehem United Church of Christ, Ann Arbor

Anthony Braxton & James Fei
Anthony Braxton, sopranino, soprano & alto saxophones, live electronics; James Fei, sopranino & alto saxophones

Bishop/Hannaford Dectet performs works by Anthony Braxton
An ensemble led by distinguished performing faculty from the University of Michigan Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation Andrew Bishop and Marc Hannaford. Andrew Bishop, clarinets and saxophones; Josie Ala, trumpet; Adam Unsworth, French horn; Marcus Elliot, tenor saxophone; Kaleigh Wilder, baritone saxophone, bass clarinet; Oliver Bishop, contrabass clarinet; Marc Hannaford, piano; Ben Willis, bass; Jonathan Barahal Taylor, drums; Ian Antonio, percussion

Jason Kao Hwang's *Burning Bridge*
Jason Hwang – composer/violin; Haruna Fukazawa, piccolo/flute; Sun Li, pipa; Herb Robertson, trumpet; Dick Griffin trombone; Anders Nilsson, guitar; Joe Daley, tuba; Ken Filiano, bass; Andrew Drury, drums

Membership

Renewals

Alan Goldsmith
William and Carol Lewis
Elaine Rogers-Ewald

Southeastern Michigan Jazz Association

The Southeastern Michigan Jazz Association

(SEMJA) was formed in 1987 for the purpose of promoting understanding and appreciation of jazz as an art form. The organization is comprised of professional musicians, jazz scholars, jazz writers, club owners, broadcasters and listeners. The organization operates through a Board and with a volunteer staff.

SEMJA is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.

Inquiries

All mail should be sent to SEMJA,
712 East Ann St.,
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1502
For phone messages
call: 734.668.7470
email: *semja@semja.org*

Board Members

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Kenji Lee
Ellen Rowe
Sandy Schopbach
Linda Yohn

Publication

The *SEMJA Update* is published monthly and sent to members at no cost. It is edited by Lars Bjorn and Piotr Michalowski with additional assistance from Barton Polot (production editor), Margot Campos (layout), and Jeff Gaynor.

SEMJA Board Meeting

The SEMJA Board meets normally on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The meeting on October 18 will be held online via video conferencing (Zoom). Please call Lars at 734-668-7470 if you have questions.

Update **Monthly Advertising Rates**

	For-Profit Business	Non-Profit & SEMJA Members
Full Page	$100.00	$80.00
Half Page	$53.00	$42.00
Quarter Page	$35.00	$28.00
Flyer/Insert	$94.00	$75.00
Classifieds	75 cents/word	60 cents/word

There is also a 20% discount for advertisers who order ads for three (3) months or more.

To reach our target audience of Jazz fans, call 734-353-3568

Camera-ready ads must be received by the 15th day of the month preceding publication date, together with a check made payable to **SEMJA**.

Ask us about banner ads in the ***semja.org*** Web site.

SEMJA Membership Application

Mail to: SEMJA • 712 East Ann St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1502

❑ New Member
❑ Renewal

Membership Levels

❑ Basic	$30
❑ Student	$20
❑ Couple	$40
❑ Patron	$60
❑ Nonprofit Corp.	$50
❑ Corporate	$250
❑ Lifetime	$500

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Detroit Jazz Festival 2022 photographs

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
Dr. Valade's Brass Band
Ralphe Armstrong and Gerard Gibbs
Chucho Valdes

photographs by Lars Bjorn

Around Town

Pianist Thollem McDonas made his annual visit to Kerrytown Concert House in the company of saxophonist Piotr Michalowski and bassist Joel Peterson. The two became three when they were joined by cellist Abby Alwin for the second half of the concert.

712 East Ann St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1502

Organization
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